

FIREFIGHTERS PENSION SCHEME (ENGLAND) 2015 SCHEME MANAGER DISCRETIONS STATEMENT

This statement outlines the Scheme Manager (Royal Berkshire Fire Authority) discretions for The Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) Regulations 2014, SI 2014/2848, effective from 1 April 2015.

Power to Delegate **Delegation (Regulation 5)**

The Scheme Manager must ensure that delegated powers are appropriate and current. [Regulation 5 (2)]

Scheme Manager Determination

The scheme of delegation to officers approved by the Authority states that the Chief Fire Officer is fully empowered to exercise the powers of the Authority under the Firefighters' Pension Schemes.

Pensionable Pay **Pensionable Pay (Regulation 17)**

The Scheme Manager has discretion to determine if Continual Professional Development payments are to be treated as pensionable pay. [Regulation 17(1)(d)]

Scheme Manager Determination

The Scheme Manager has determined that Continual Professional Development payments will be treated as pensionable in the 2015 scheme, and therefore will be included in the calculation of pensionable pay.

Contributions **Contributions during absence from work due to illness, trade dispute or authorised absence (Regulation 111)**

Where an active member is absent from scheme employment because of illness or injury and not entitled to receive pensionable pay, or because of trade dispute or authorised unpaid absence, they may pay member contributions; if they do, the scheme employer may require that they should also pay employer contributions. [Regulation 111(2),(3)and (4)]

Scheme Manager Determination

The Scheme Manager has determined that an employee who elects to pay their member contributions for authorised unpaid absence as a result of sickness, maternity or shared parental leave does not have to pay employer contributions.

The Scheme Manager has determined that employees absent on industrial action or on a career break will pay both employer and employee contributions in the event that they wish to count this as pensionable service.

Other Discretions

The Scheme Manager will consider its position on the remaining 49 discretions in the 2015 scheme during 2016.